Medical aid at Puthenchira.

31. * **Mr. Paul A. Thaliath:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware of the difficulties of the people of Puthenchira in the Parur taluk surrendered by the Cochin State to get medical aid;

(*b*) whether any complaints have been received; and

(*c*) whether any action has been taken in this matter?

Dr. S. John: (*a*) and (*b*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*c*) Government have sanctioned the opening of a dispensary at Puthenchira from the 1st Chingom 1121, if a building according to the type design is given free for the purpose by the people of the place.

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath: May I know whether the petitioners concerned has been informed of the reply given to my question (*c*)?

Dr. S. John: The Government order was passed only recently. It has not yet been communicated to the petitioners.

President: It has been directed that the order should be communicated to the persons concerned.

State Bank.

32. * **Mr. Paul A. Thaliath:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have any idea to start a 'State Bank' in the near future; and

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, will they be pleased to consult both the Houses of Legislature, before such a Bank is started.

Mr. S. Ramaswami Aiyar (*Financial Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Judges and Government Pleaders.

33. * **Mr. Paul A. Thaliath:** Will the Government be pleased to state: (*a*) the number of District Judges, Additional District Judges and Government Pleaders; and

(*b*) the number of Roman Catholics among those officers?

Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai (*Legal Remembrancer to Government*):

(*a*) District Judges 7
Additional District Judges 8
Government Pleaders 12

(*b*) One.

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Mr. A. N. Satyanesan (*Nominated*) : [illegible]

Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai : I claim notice.

Malayalam Jaffna tobacco Society, Ltd., Quilon.

34. ***Mr. Paul A. Thaliath** : Will the Government be pleased to state : (*a*) whether it is a fact that only the Malayalam Jaffna Tobacco Society, Ltd., Quilon, is given permit in the whole State to import Jaffna tobacco ; and

(*b*) Whether it is a fact that they alone have stock of the Jaffna tobacco in the whole State?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan (*Excise Commissioner*) :

(*a*) No.

(*b*) Yes.

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : May I know why this society alone has got stocks of Jaffna tobacco in the State?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : This society alone has got stocks of Jaffna tobacco because they alone have bought stocks from Ceylon and brought them down here.

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : Is not the Government sponsoring the business?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : Yes, Sir. By the Government of Ceylon.

President : I may mention that the Ceylon Government approached this Government on this matter. There was some trouble between the Sinhales and the non-Sinhalese, a thing that crops up in Ceylon frequently. The Jaffna people who are Tamilians said that the Ceylon Government were anxious to entrust the Jaffna tobacco business with the non-Tamilians who were Sinhalese. I then told the representative of the Government of Ceylon that this Government would not enter into this kind of conflict, but if the Ceylon Government would take the responsibility for starting an organised body on a co-operative basis in which Jaffna and Sinhalese people were also represented, this Government would deal with this body rather than with individual contractors. I believe that this body was brought into existence by the Ceylon Government as a result of the expression of opinion by this Government to the representative of the Ceylon Government.

Licensed tobacco dealers in Quilon.

35. ***Mr. Paul A. Thaliath** : Will the Government be pleased to state the names of the wholesale licensed tobacco dealers in Quilon, who are importing Jaffna tobacco?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : Under the tobacco Rules, wholesale licensed dealers are not authorised to import Jaffna tobacco. *Only mellabhom licensees can import Jaffna tobacco.*

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